

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 07841 112026Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 L-03 CAB-02 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00  
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R 111226Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5272  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMCONSUL MONTREAL

CONFIDENTIAL MADRID 07841

MONTREAL FOR USREP ICAO

E.O. 11652:GDS  
TAGS: PORG, ICAO, SP  
SUBJ: POLITICIZATION OF ICAO  
REF: STATE 167737

1. SUMMARY. SPAIN SHARES OUR CONCERN ABOUT INCREASED POLITICIZATION OF ICAO AND WILL ATTEMPT TO AVOID THIS IN ITS ROLE AS AD HOC COMMISSION MEMBER. GOS ESSENTIALLY INDIFFERENT TO METHOD FOR SELECTION OF BUREAU DIRECTORS, BUT VOTED JUNE 22 IN FAVOR OF CHANGED PROCEDURES AS A DEMONSTRATION OF SOLIDARITY WITH LATIN AMERICANS. BY CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH SPANISH IN MONTREAL, USDEL MAY BE ABLE TO GAIN SUPPORT FOR REVERSAL OR MODIFICATION OF JUNE 22 DECISION. END SUMMARY.

2. IN DISCUSSING JUNE 22 VOTE OF ICAO COUNCIL CHANGING PROCEDURES FOR SELECTING BUREAU DIRECTORS, SPANISH DIRECTOR GENERAL OF AIR TRANSPORT YNIGUEZ INFORMED EMBOFF SPAIN VOTED IN RESPONSE TO SUDDEN REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FROM LATIN AMERICANS AND IN ABSENCE OF ANY COUNTERVAILING APPROACH FROM US DELEGATION. WHILE NOTING THAT REVISED

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SELECTION PROCEDURE IS A BIT MORE "DEMOCRATIC" THAN THE PREVIOUS SYSTEM, YNIGUEZ SAID SPAIN AGREES ON DESIRABILITY OF AVOIDING INCREASED POLITICIZATION OF A VALUABLE TECHNICAL ORGANIZATION AND WILL WORK TO THIS END IN ITS ROLE AS MEMBER OF AD HOC COMMISSION. HE ASSURED EMBOFF THAT SPAIN WOULD CONSIDER ANY NEW PROPOSALS SHOULD DISSATISFACTION DEVELOP WITH NEW PROCEDURES.

3. CHIEF OF COMMERCIAL AVIATION IN DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF AIR TRANSPORT (GARCIA DE BENITO) INFORMED EMBOFF THAT SPAIN HAS NO STRONG VIEWS ON DIRECTOR SELECTION PROCEDURE AND PROBABLY WOULD HAVE ABSTAINED ON JUNE 22 VOTE HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR LAST MINUTE REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FROM LATIN AMERICANS AND ABSENCE OF PRIOR CONSULTATIONS WITH THE U.S. WHILE NOTING THE DIFFICULTY OF REVERSING A DECISION TAKEN BY SUCH A LARGE MAJORITY OF ICAO MEMBERS, GARCIA DE BENITO BELIEVES CLOSE CONSULTATIONS WITH GOS DELEGATION IN MONTREAL COULD LEAD TO SPANISH SUPPORT FOR MODIFICATIONS IN NEW BUREAU DIRECTOR SELECTION PROCEDURES. EATON

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INTERVENTION, CIVIL AVIATION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
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**Decapton Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014